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## STANLEY WILLARD BROMLEY, 1899-1954

Dr. Bromley, one of the past presidents of the New York Entomological Society, a contributor to its "Journal," and well-known to the entomological world, was born December 7, 1899 at Sunny Valley Farm, close to Charlton, Worcester County, Massachusetts. He was the only son of James Willard and Lizzie Knowles Bromley. After graduating from high school in 1918, he entered the then Massachusetts Agricultural College where he majored in entomology under Dr. H. T. Fernald and Dr. G. C. Crampton. He graduated in 1922 with his B.S. degree and received his M.S. degree from the same institution in 1924 after completing his graduate work. From Ohio State University he received the Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1934.

Dr. Bromley became interested in natural history at an early age. His first paper, "Asilids and their prey" written at the age of 13, appeared in "Psyche," 21: 192-198, in 1914. Thirty-two years afterward, the late Professor C. T. Brues referred to this paper in his chapter on Predatory Insects in his book "Insect Dietary" published in 1946. It is quite unusual for entomologists to get into print so young and have their early work referred to after such a long time. In the paper in question, 18 species of Asilidæ are recorded with 463 records of capture. Early in life, the author exhibited a degree of patience and a keenness of observation that were to characterize all his later works. It was not until nine years later that his second paper was published in "Psyche" on the feeding habits of robber flies. The Asilidæ upon which he was an authority occupied part of Dr. Bromley's attention for the remainder of his life, his last paper being a description of 32 new species.

During the summer of 1922 he worked on fruit insects at Wallingford, Connecticut for the Federal Bureau of Entomology. The American Cyanamid Company employed him between 1923 and 1928 in connection with the development of cyanogas for the control of insect pests and rodents and liquid hydrocyanic acid gas for fumigation work in warehouses. At this time his office was in New York City.

In January of 1929, he became associated with the F. A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company, later the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories of Stamford, Connecticut, as chief entomologist, where he investigated insecticides and the life histories of nursery and forest insect pests, and where he taught various courses at the Bartlett School of Tree Surgery. He also built up a collection of tree and shrub insects, with specimens of their injury. Dr. Bromley remained with the firm until he retired, December 31, 1951, on account of illness.

During Dr. Bromley's work on the taxonomy of the Asilidæ, on which he published around 50 papers, he built up a collection of well over 35,000 Diptera specimens, nearly 28,000 of which are Asilidæ. Type specimens numbered 1,868. This collection is now in the Smithsonian Institution. "Index VII to the Literature of American Economic Entomology, 1940 to 1944" was edited by Dr. Bromley with the help of his wife, Dr. Helen B. Bromley, an authority on the taxonomy of fresh-water algæ. This was published in 1948 by the American Association of Economic Entomologists.

Dr. Bromley kept in touch with many entomologists and belonged to the Entomological Society of America of which he was a fellow, to the American Association of Economic Entomologists, the Ecological Society of America, the New York Entomological Society of which he was vice president in 1945 and president in 1946, to the entomological societies of Washington, Brooklyn and Cambridge, and to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. At the time of his death he was a member of the board of governors of the National Shade Tree Conference and a member of the Connecticut Tree Protective Association.

His death occurred in the Stamford Hospital on February 16, 1954, after a long illness characterized by high blood pressure. He was buried in Long Ridge Union Cemetery, Stamford, Con-

necticut. At Columbus, Ohio, in 1935 he was married to Dr. Helen Jean Brown, who at that time was on the staff of the department of botany of the Ohio State University. He is survived by his wife, to whom I am indebted for most of the above information, by his son James Robert, born at Stamford on April 9, 1936 and now a student at Yale, and by his mother. In the obituary of Dr. Bromley by Charles P. Alexander that appeared in the *Annals of the Entomological Society of America*, vol. 47, No. 2, June, 1954, it is stated that in 1910, when he was 11 years of age he visited the museum of the Boston Society of Natural History and became acquainted with the late Charles W. Johnson, a dipterologist of note with whom Dr. Bromley was friendly until Johnson died in 1932. It is further stated that "Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were so impressed by the personality and potentialities of the youngster that they took the preliminary steps to legally adopt him, a course that proved impossible." Mrs. Helen J. Bromley has advised me that Dr. Bromley's mother who is still living denies that such a course was ever considered.

The following bibliography was supplied by Mrs. Helen J. Bromley. It was prepared except for the last three titles, by Dr. Bromley who apparently considered that it represented his most important writings, and except for twenty-two titles that I have been able to add on shade trees and shade tree pests in order to show the scope of his interests. During the years that I knew Dr. Bromley and during our meetings, usually in connection with the meetings of the New York Entomological Society and the Eastern Branch of the American Association of Economic Entomologists, I was always impressed by his serious and deep interest in entomology, by his desire to be helpful and by his friendliness. He always merited the scientific and personal esteem in which we held him.—HARRY B. WEISS

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